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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/600,293	06/20/2003	Karam Michael Noujeim	ANRI-8055US0	6310
23910	7590	12/14/2004	EXAMINER	
FLIESLER MEYER, LLP			HO, TAN	
FOUR EMBARCADERO CENTER			ART UNIT	
SUITE 400			PAPER NUMBER	
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94111			2821	

DATE MAILED: 12/14/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/600,293

Applicant(s)

NOUJEIM, KARAM MICHAEL

Examiner

Tan Ho

Art Unit

2821

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 and 13-18 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 7-10 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 11 and 12 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 11/03/03.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

1. Claim 1 is objected to because of the following informalities: In claim 1, line 3, after "and", the word "to" should be deleted. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 7, 8, and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Gautier et al (US Patent 5,148,182).

Gautier et al disclose, in figures 5 and 13, an antenna structure comprising a ground element 12, a dielectric 120 coupled to the ground element, figure 5, a pair of radiating strips 77 separated by a generally uniform gap, figure 13, and a plurality of varactor diodes 6, see column 4, lines 11-20, mounted in shunt across the gap.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claim 9 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gautier et al in view of Takei (US Patent 6,028,561).

The patent to Gautier et al, described above, differs from the claimed invention because it does not teach the variable capacitor. Takei discloses, in figure 1C, an antenna device comprising a variable capacitor 6 coupled between the conductive strips 4 and 14, see column 5, lines 19-25. It would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to employ the variable capacitor in the antenna device of Gautier et al for the purpose of obtaining the impedance matching center frequency of the antenna device as taught by Takei, column 2, lines 5-8.

Allowable Subject Matter

6. Claims 11 and 12 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

7. Claims 1-6, and 13-18 are allowed.

Claims 1 and 13 recite an antenna device and method for generating a fixed frequency beam steerable leaky wave from a leaky wave microstrip antenna comprising a grounded element, a dielectric coupled to the grounded element, and conductive traces coupled to the dielectric, the conductive traces having a pair of non-radiating conductive element, and a plurality of radiating strips, each of strips connected between the pair of non-radiating conductive elements, and each of the plurality of radiating strips including a center-loaded varying reactance element.

The patent to Gautier et al does not teach a pair of non-radiating conductive elements.

Claims 17 recites the method for generating a fixed frequency beam steerable leaky wave from a leaky wave microstrip antenna comprising the steps of driving the radiating strips with a 180 degree hybrid fixed frequency signal, and varying the variable the variable reactance element reactance value to provide continuous fixed frequency main beam steering.

The patent to Gautier does not teach these steps.

8. The patents to McConnell, Haruyama et al, Entschladen et al, Gautier, and duToit et al are cited as of interest showing the antenna similar to that disclosed.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tan Ho whose telephone number is (571) 272-1822. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (8:00AM - 5:00PM).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Don Wong can be reached on (571) 272-1834. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


TAN HO
PRIMARY EXAMINER